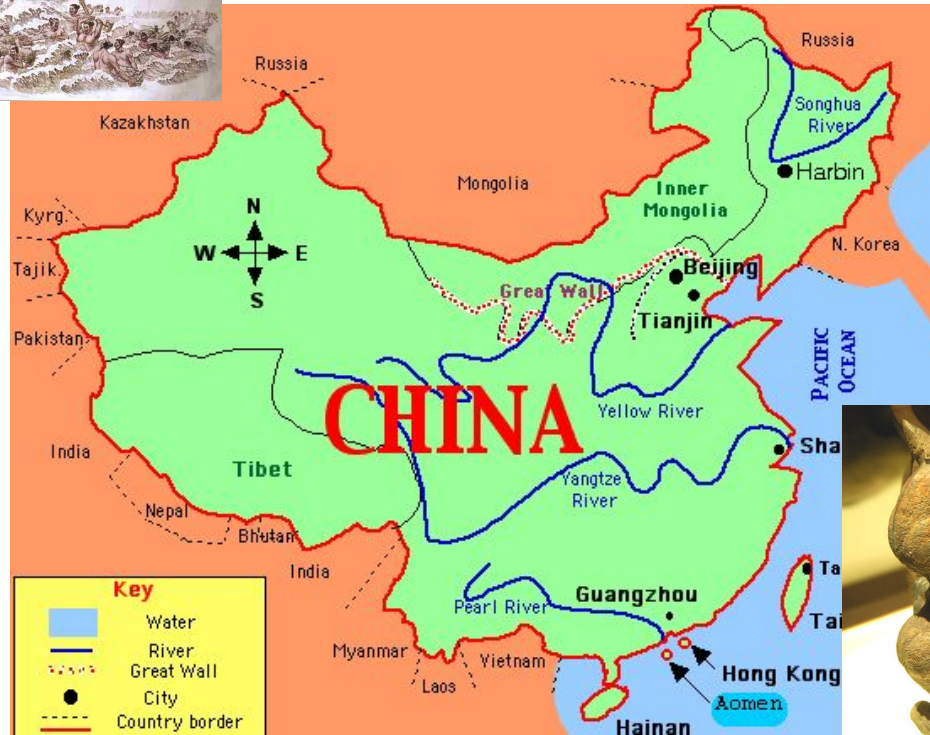


ANCIENT ASIA:: HIS 219

UNIT SIX



TO ACCOMPANY A HISTORY OF ASIA CHAPTER 5, ANCIENT CHINA

WHAT IS IN THIS LECTURE...

AND WHAT AIN'T

- PAST LECTURES DEALT WITH XIA, SHANG, AND ZHOU PERIODS, AND CHINESE RELIGION & PHILOSOPHY
- THIS LECTURE FOCUSES ON THE QIN AND HAN DYNASTY PERIODS.



TIMELINE OF ANCIENT CHINA

- **6500 BCE:** Neolithic culture in W. China, agriculture + villages, different farming N/S
- **5000-3000 BCE: Yangshao Culture** in W. China, elaborate pottery w/geometric designs, in E. China, jade art
- **3000-2000 BCE:** Fusion of E/W cultures, oracle bone divination, metal for weapons, walled towns
- **Pre-1600: Xia Dynasty** (legend), myths of 5 founders
- **1600-1027: Shang Dynasty**, in region around Huanghe. Bronze, writing, ritual, cities.
- **1027-221: Zhou Dynasty**
Zhou, from the west, overthrow the Shang in civil war. Idea of “Mandate of Heaven”. Rise of main schools of Chinese philosophy: Confucianism, Taoism, Legalism.
- **1027-770: “Western” Zhou**
- **770-221: “Eastern” Zhou**
- **600-221: Warring States Era**
- **221-206 BCE: Qin Dynasty** unites six states into Empire. Qin Emperor overthrown due to repressive policies, leading to rise of **Han Dynasty**, which lasts from **206 BCE-220 CE**



WARRING STATES PERIOD 600-221 BCE:
THE SEEMINGLY LESS ADVANCED QIN STATE
COMES OUT ON TOP IN THE END



MAP OF THE SHORT-LIVED QIN DYNASTY (221-206 BCE)



IMAGES OF SHI HUANGDI



MAP SHOWING LOCATION OF THE TOMB OF THE QIN (CH'IN) EMPEROR



MAP OF HAN DYNASTY

(206 BCE TO 220 CE)

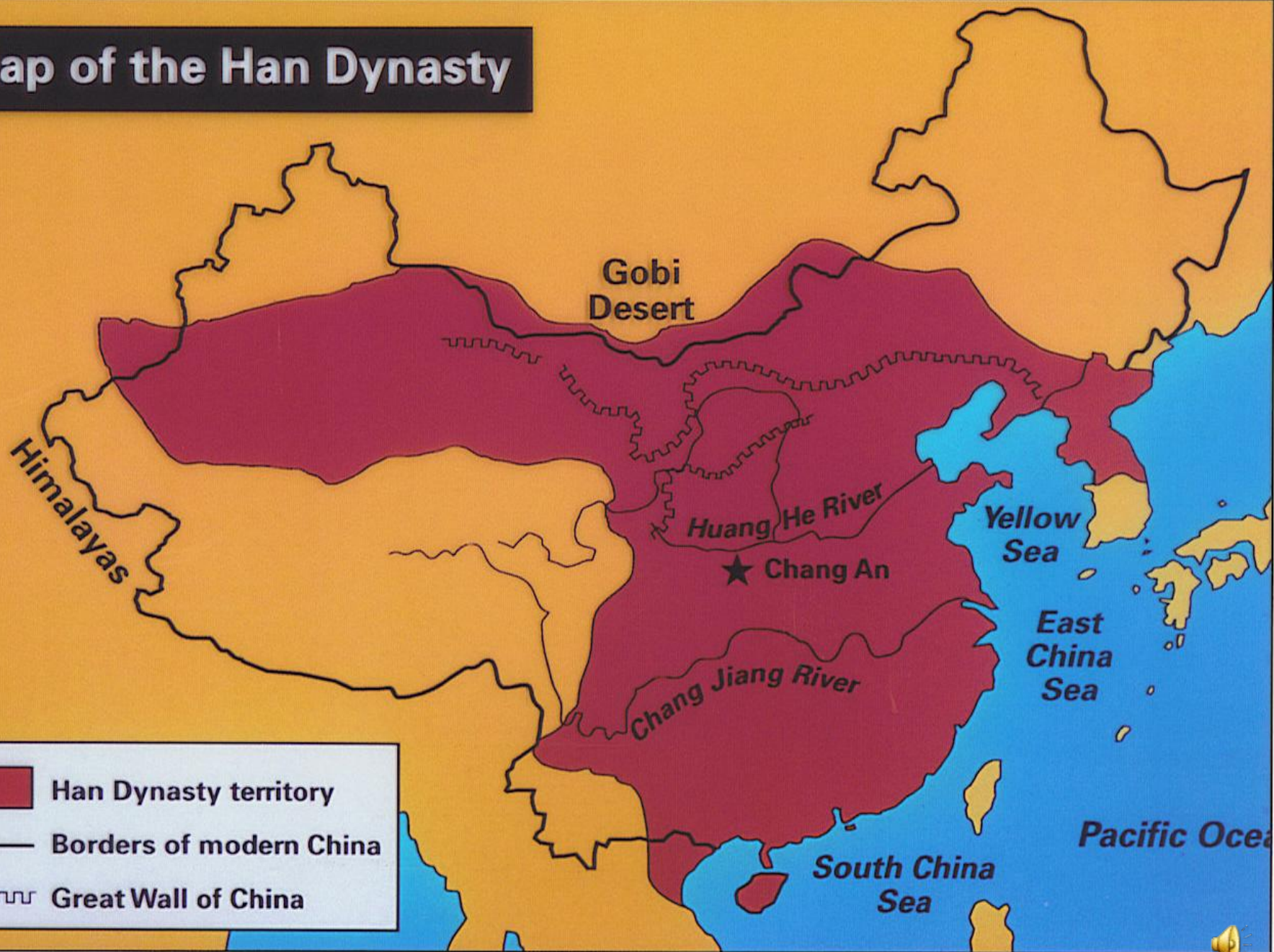


PAINTING OF EMPEROR WU DI

(ruled from 141-87 BCE), creator of China's, and perhaps world's, first university, for training of government officials, showing triumph of Confucian values in Han China

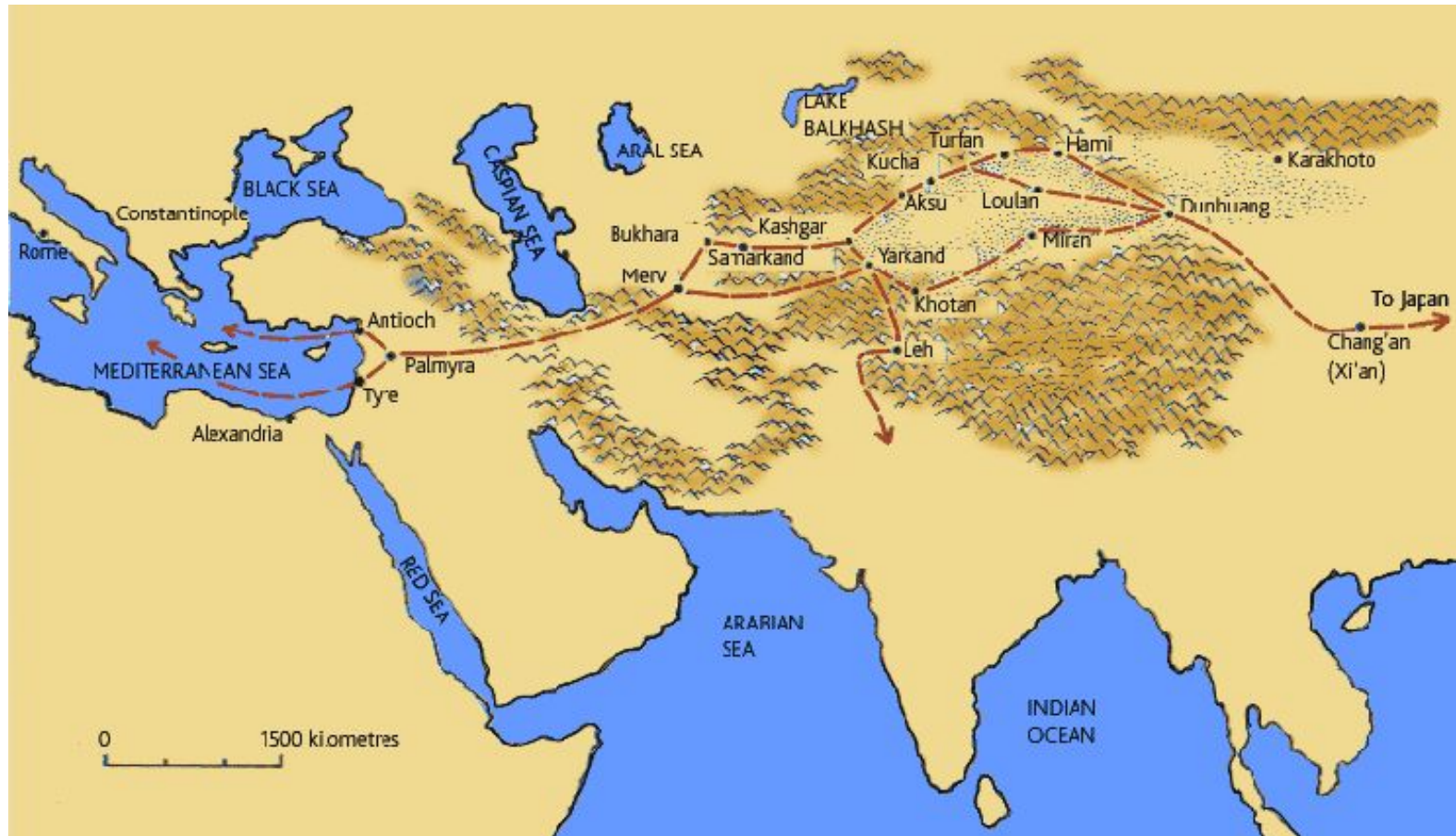


Map of the Han Dynasty



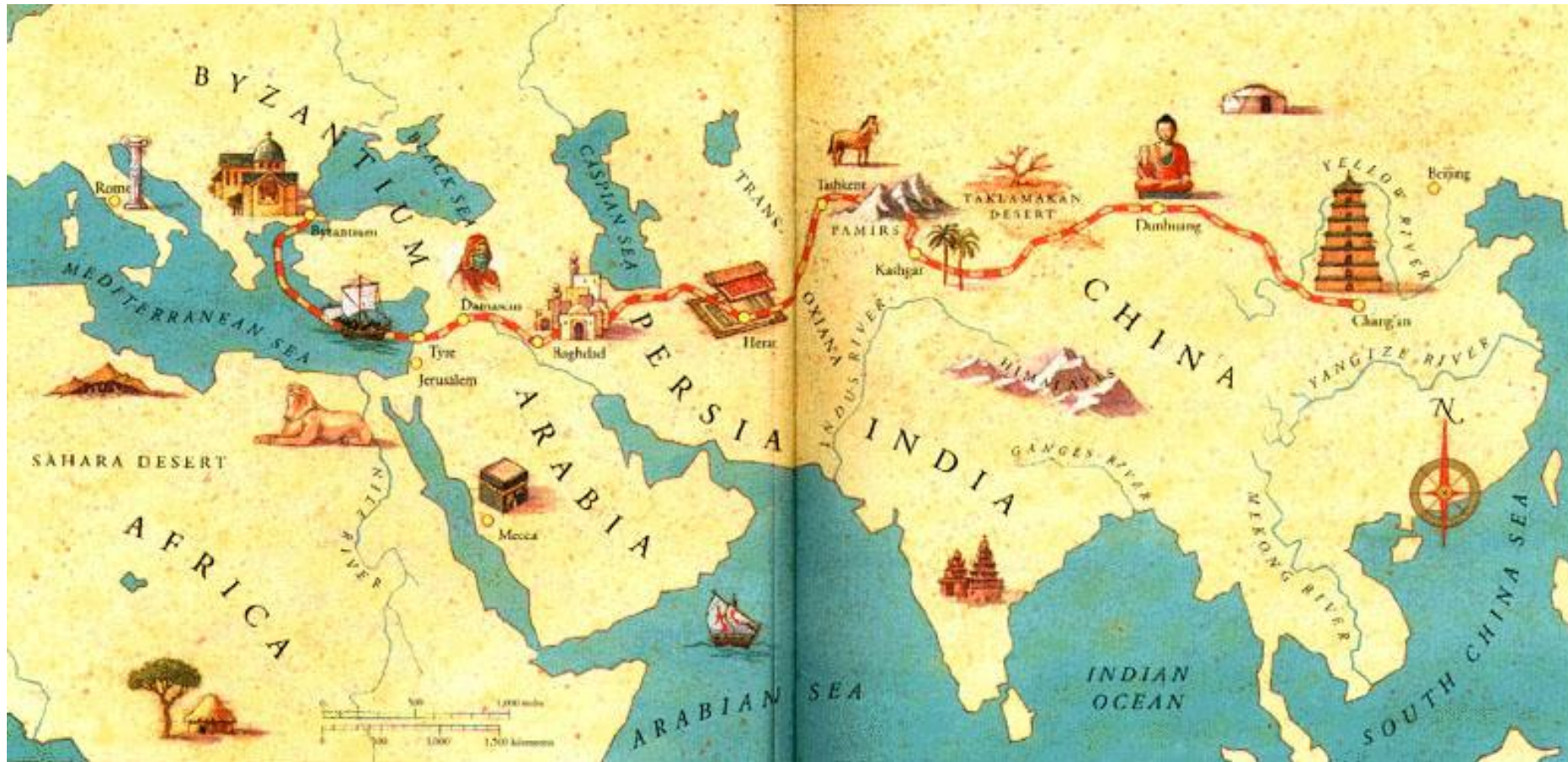
THE SILK ROAD CONNECTING CHINA WITH CENTRAL ASIA, PERSIA, ARABIA AND EUROPE

There were also other land and ocean routes.



THE SILK ROAD CONNECTING CHINA WITH CENTRAL ASIA, PERSIA, ARABIA AND EUROPE.

There were also other land and ocean routes.



MAP SHOWING OCEAN AS WELL AS LAND TRADE ROUTES



EXAMPLE OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY IN HAN DYNASTY: WORLD'S FIRST SEISMOGRAPH FOR DETECTING EARTHQUAKES



- In 132 AD, in the then national capital of Luoyang, Zhang Heng made the ancient seismograph to determine the direction of an earthquake. It was made of fine copper, and looked like a big cup with a lid. The instrument was cast with eight dragons on the surface (whose heads pointed in eight directions -east, south, west, north, southeast, northeast, southwest, and northwest), and each dragon had a copper ball in the mouth. On the ground below the dragons there were eight copper toads raising their heads and opening their mouths opposite the dragons' mouths.



FURTHER INFO ON HAN DYNASTY SEISMOGRAPH

- The inner side of the seismograph was ingeniously constructed: when an earthquake occurred, the dragon facing that direction would open its mouth, and the ball would fall into the toad's mouth, automatically indicating the direction of the earthquake. One day in 138 AD, the dragon in the west expelled its ball.
- As expected, an earthquake had occurred that day in Longxi (present-day Western Gansu Province) a thousand kilometers away. It was the first time that mankind had used an instrument to detect an earthquake. It was over 1,700 years later that a similar instrument was invented in Europe.
- http://people.chinese.cn/en/article/2009-11/04/content_81237.htm



ART OF THE HAN DYNASTY



HAN-ERA FIGURE OF A MUSICIAN PLAYING THE **ZE**, A STRINGED INSTRUMENT LIKE A ZITHER



IMAGE OF A FEMALE SERVANT. SUBORDINATION OF WOMEN INTENSIFIED IN THE HAN PERIOD.



YELLOW TURBAN REBELLION 184-205 CE, TAOIST-INSPIRED UPRISING THAT HELPED USHER IN THE DECLINE OF THE HAN DYNASTY



FALUN GONG (FALUN DA FA): MODERN SPIRITUAL-RELIGIOUS MOVEMENT IN CHINA



WHY DOES THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT SUPPRESS FALUN GONG?



- The Chinese gov't fears that this seemingly harmless, yoga-like movement could become a source of rebellion against the gov't, as happened in the Han Dynasty with the Yellow Turban Movement of the 2nd century, and during the Qing Dynasty with the White Lotus movement in the late 18th century



END OF THE UNIT AND CHAPTER

